

The Bethel Courier.

A Weekly Family Newspaper. Neutral in Politics, devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Education, the Mechanic Arts, and the News of the Day.

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The Bethel Courier.

JAMES NUTTING, Proprietor.

N. T. TRUE, Editor.

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History of Bethel.

By Dr. N. T. True.

CHAPTER I.

P. VIGILANCE.

PROF. JOHN DICKINSON, M. D.

CONTINUED.

A professional man, who has devoted much time to the study and investigation of Geological subjects, and whose long and friendly intercourse with Dr. Locke has enabled him to form a very correct opinion of his character as a Geologist, has given us the following letter:

CINCINNATI, Ohio.

M. D. WILSON, M. D.

Dear Sir:—Dr. Locke's note for Nature early led him to the cultivation of the department of Geology.

To the period during which he lived, the first half of the nineteenth century, belongs the merit of having given form and character to this Science; previously to this, it scarce had a place among the Natural Sciences.

Many facts had been obtained, many observations made, but the material which had accumulated wanted arrangement, classification, new fields were being opened, a vast store of knowledge lay hidden beneath the surface, ready to yield up its wealth to the eager student of the intelligent country. At such a period in the history of a science, the labors of such a man were of incalculable value.

His strong powers of mind, combined with his vigorous habits, enabled him largely in developing and defining these great principles which are now recognized as connected with the "history of the earth," its primitive condition, the various changes which it has undergone, and the successive eras which inhabited it previous to man's appearance. He employed most of the time devoted to this subject, to the investigation of its great principles, and the practical application of them to the useful purposes of life; yet, when opportunity offered, he was not unmindful of the beauties of Paleontology—the flora and fauna of the ancient world—and some of the most interesting in this department are not only unobtainable for their originality, but for their accuracy. For the restoration of one of the most remarkable specimens which inhabited the earth during its first life-sustaining period, are we to him indebted, and with which his name must ever be associated.

Located, as was Dr. Locke at Cincinnati, upon the *Silurian* formation, the first of the fossiliferous series, a rare and rich field surrounded him, and in its cultivation, he displayed an earnestness worthy of all recognition.

The strata here he studied carefully, and by an intimate acquaintance with them, he was enabled to identify and classify formations in distant localities, when in later years he was employed in the service of the government.

In 1838 he was engaged in a Geological survey of Ohio, and his report to the Legislature upon the Geological structure of the south-western part of the State, must ever be regarded as a paper of much value—essentially scientific, yet written in a pleasing style, so directed of technicalities, and abounding with so much of practical importance, it will be read by all classes with equal pleasure and profit. It is much to be regretted that provision was not made for the continuance of the survey, from year to year, until the work should have been completed. But although engaged but one season, the

labors of Dr. Locke have thrown much light on the Geology of our State, and have greatly facilitated the development of that of the great Mississippi valley.

It was not, in connection with David D. Owen, called to the service of the survey of the mineral lands of the North-west, and while engaged at this work, he had advanced after sounding faithfully the "Blue Limestone" at Cincinnati, viz., that it was the characteristic stratum of a *Silurian* system, continuous, underlying the entire valley. This theory was confirmed when he found this same stratum, with its peculiar physical properties and organic remains, cropping out in Iowa in the West, and at Lake Superior in the North.

During his labors in the mineral lands, his familiarity with Electricity and Magnetism, and the accuracy of his Magnetical observations, were singularly useful in indicating the depth and course of veins of ore, and in defining the situation and extent of mineralogical deposits.

I have thus endeavored to merely indicate the character and tendency of Dr. Locke's accomplishments in this department, and to show some of his readings in this section of the great Book of Nature. To do the subject full justice would require much more space than could here be afforded.

In conclusion I may make this remark, that every Geologist who reads Dr. Locke's Geological writings, and sees what he accomplished in so little time, must regret that he could not have spent his whole life in bringing forth the beauties, and elaborating the principles of a science, for which he was so admirably adapted.

Very respectfully,

W. W. DAVIS.

I have recently had the pleasure of reading an exceedingly interesting report, somewhat in the form of a traveler's journal, made by Dr. Locke, of the regions about Lake Superior, and I cannot restrain my pen from giving a few extracts. The facts they contain, the eloquence in which they are presented, and the deep poetic feeling exhibited may lead many persons to form a more correct knowledge of some of the traits in Dr. Locke's character than any description I can give.

"The Saint St. Mary's is a rapid or fall of the river over a barrier of sandstone, by which the waters in the course of a mile descend from eighty to twenty feet, obstructing entirely the navigation of the stream with the exception of the barrow and birch canoe. The subject of a ship canal around this fall has very justly attracted the attention of our government. With the idea of such a canal in my mind I passed several times over the ground. The circumstances are the most favorable possible for the accomplishment of such an undertaking. The foundation rock is a soft sandstone, easily excavated, and yet having consistency to withstand the effect of hydraulic pressure and the abrading of the currents. The lower part of the line, along which the canal must be extended, presents loam, sand, gravel, boulders, and other loose materials to an unknown yet undoubtedly moderate depth. Most likely the same sandstone, in place at the head of the rapids, would be found in the bottom of the excavation, forming a very desirable foundation for the whole work from beginning to end.

The loose materials already named at the surface, have evidently been brought to their present place by the rapids themselves, which occupied the place proposed for the canal, and which then, as now, undoubtedly had the sandstone beneath them. Boulders of granite, gneiss, and sienite are still lodged abundantly on the present inclined plane of the rapids, and serve to tear the descending waters into an agitated form. As fast as these boulders are undermined and removed by currents, by ice, or otherwise, new ones are brought down by similar causes and take their places. Thus these huge rocks, some of them from four to ten feet in diameter, as well as the waters of the St. Mary are moving by fits and starts, only at a slower rate. It has not escaped the notice of those who have reported to the Secretary of War on the subject of this canal, that the boulders may be used in the construction of the canal itself. They are of sufficient size, and some of them of suitable quality, for such a purpose, but a large portion of them will be found difficult to be wrought. But the want of materials for such a work need not be any impediment, as the limestone of Drummond's island would be easily transported to the Saint. The hasty observations which I was enabled to make are consistent with what has already been communicated to the United States Senate, by the War Department, with a single exception. I doubt whether vessels drawing more than six feet of water on all tides navigate the St. Mary's river, on account of the two bars already named; one of rock and the other of rapids, and the other is found in Lake Huron. Thus, if true, need not require the proposed canal to be as deep as twelve feet, the depth which has been suggested.

Rabbi could form not the faintest idea of its reality. However learned in the principles of law, and in matters of religion, here he found a mystery, that he could, by no means, solve. He was as ignorant of its peculiar nature, as the little child of the nursery. The finite mind can in no wise fathom it with its utmost grasp of thought. It (in its sublimity) is far above and beyond human reason. But whatever of ignorance there may be of it whatever of blindness there may be on it and whatever incredulity in regard to it, it is one of the great principles of relation. It is brought to view very clearly and fully on the many pages of inspiration. It is as distinctly and definitely taught as is heaven or the existence of the soul, or angels, or Christ, or God. Christ uttered it in vivid language and made it a prominent theme of remark in private interviews with men and in public discourse. Marvel not, that I said unto thee, ye must be born again. You must be begotten of the spirit of God. I know you are confounded by this doctrine. It is indeed to you an absolute strangeness. Yet it is nevertheless true. It is the doctrine of heaven, from whence comes all light, all love, all knowledge, everything pure, everything valuable, everything of good report. It is a simple and plain in the view of the human mind, who see all things and facts, his own soul and ends for his own glory and for the highest good of his creatures. The apostles taught the same great principle. Their cry was, God is man and man is God. They did not do the truth of this doctrine. They preached it plainly and earnestly at Jerusalem, through Asia Minor, in Rome, at Corinth, in Ephesus, and wherever they traveled in the great cities of the East. They disseminated this doctrine, as the great first object to render men cheerful, cheerful and happy, and peaceful on land and on the sea, and in all the vicissitudes of providential dealings, and amid the violent storms of human rage. They were firm believers in this principle revealed by their divine Master. They waved not upon it in all their labors of love. One of these men of strong faith and of heroic courage was very precise in his use of words on this theme. There is not the least ambiguity of language. There is no room to doubt. No ground for conflicting arguments. Whosoever shall confess, that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him and he in God. God is love and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God and God in him. Here is plainly revealed the uniting of the human with the divine and the divine with the human. They became as one and inseparable. The mere vanity in itself is joined to infinite excellence, and affix to excellence is united with the vanity. The perfect weakness is united to infinite strength and infinite strength is joined to perfect weakness. God is man and man is God. This is the doctrine taught. And taught too by the Spirit. Inhabited by him, who cannot err. The human made strong by the aid of the divine. By it rendered able to endure with easily fortitude all the varied ills of life. This is the principle inculcated by the teachings of revelation. As a matter of theory it is made a subject of much discourse. It is often agitated in the schools of moral science and christian ethics. Ignorance of its nature, gives rise to many warm words, and heated debates. The truth of the doctrine does not seem plausible to finite wisdom. It does not seem worthy to be received as an utter absurdity. The Jewish and

credulity on its inherent excellence and great glory we will notice it experimentally. We will test it in its application to real life. Some things appear far better, when made a subject of theoretical speculation, than when tried by personal experience. They seem beautiful when made a theme of discourse, yet are found of but little value when put in practice. Does the uniting the divine with the human, produce all the good that is claimed for it? By so doing is human nature rendered mighty for any emergency however afflictive and for any endurance however fearful? The lives of men must answer the inquiry. We generally prove things by what is felt and seen and heard. And the looks and actions of others are often to us of the most convincing nature. We often doubt their words when they testify to certain facts. We sometimes call them deceivers as the Jewish scribes and priests called Christ when he said, that he was the Son of God. But when their course of life is in perfect harmony with their testimony, we at once yield our point. We are then strongly convinced. We then possess much of the spirit of the Roman Centurion, when he saw Christ expiring on the cross. When he saw the sun darkened and heard the earth quake. Though he had been a heretic, he then was of strong faith, and glorified God, saying, certainly this was a righteous man. As the Apostles asserted, that the uniting the divine nature with the human was the all sufficient remedy for the bitterness of terrible ills and many woes, we may examine the life and the manner of their death and learn whether they did utter the truth and whether they proved the validity of their doctrine by what they did and suffered. They were a noble band of men—This point is fixed and certain. They were heroes in the very best sense of the term. A braver and a more heroic company never walked the earth. They were for truth, and for truth only. They willingly sacrificed self-interest for the sake of another's good. No set of men were ever more ill treated. They were handled roughly by superior forces. By hard usage they were severely disciplined. They were made familiar with the pains of the galling hand cuffs and heavy ankle chains. They were stoned and surely scourged and dragged through the streets by the hair of their head. They were bruised and lacerated, cast into the dreary prison and had their feet made fast in the stocks. Well nigh every form of cruelty was practised upon them. Some of them were tortured and mangled and left for dead in the highway. But how did they endure all this storm of terrible persecution?—What were their looks, their words and their conduct? Let them speak for themselves. Let them tell their own story. Let them tell us how they felt in their dread conflicts with the emissaries of Satan, and from what source was their faith, their hope, their fortitude and their comfort. Says one of them I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Here are his words. He had his strength from the divine nature. He was mighty in God. By living in him, he could do all things.

DELTA.

A few days ago, Mrs. Betram, residing in Sansom street, Philadelphia, was seriously injured by an explosion of a coffee pot.

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FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 11, 1900.

The Grand Trunk Railway offers
to take passengers to Chicago and
back for \$30, from May 7 to 15th.

The distance from Portland to Chicago by the Grand Trunk line is 1140 miles, and the through trains come through in about 49 hours.

A new Evening Daily, to be called the Courier, is to be started in Portland soon, of which Dr. C. P. Illsley is to be the editor. Independent in politics. The Dr is an old hand at editorial bellows.

The Havana correspondent of the New York Herald writes that two cargoes of slaves have been landed on the north coast of Cuba. There are 1163 of these "emigrants."

Few save the oldest citizens are aware that the land in the rear of the old man Block was formerly a frog pond, where the boys amused themselves in pelting frogs on their way to school.

sixteen trunks from the wreck of the Hungarian arrived in Boston last week in a schooner from Port La Tour. They were directed to various parts of Canada, and contained principally articles of clothing.

Be prepared by Seth W. Fowle & Co.,
and for sale by—F. S. Chandler and C.
H. Mason, Bethel; Pray & Merrill,
Pond; J. Bartlett, Locke's Mill's; J. E.
Norway; B. F. Bates & Co., Paris, and
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